



ERIE COUNTY COMPTROLLER
HON. STEFAN I. MYCHAJLIW

June 20, 2019

Hon. Michael P. Kearns
Erie County Clerk's Office
92 Franklin Street
Buffalo, NY 14202

Dear Clerk Kearns,

Like you, as an elected official in the State of New York, I swore an oath to support the Constitution of the United States of America. Supporting the Constitution includes supporting the constitutional laws which are passed according to its requirements. These laws include the process for an individual to be legally present in the United States and enforcement of those laws against individuals who choose not to abide by this process. I feel, and you may as well, that the law passed by the New York State Senate and Assembly and signed into law by Governor Cuomo grants improper privileges and rights to individuals in this country illegally. Rather than showing support for the Constitution of the United States of America, this law snarls with contempt.

As Comptroller of Erie County, my office operates a Whistleblower Hotline. Its purpose is to assist taxpayers with concerns about governmental issues. If we cannot provide assistance, we direct the concerns to individuals better suited to help. I understand that there are concerns about Clerks providing information about illegal immigrants directly to proper federal authorities due to the language of the law. As such, you or your employees may not feel comfortable reporting possible violations of the law directly to federal authorities. I can help. My office does not investigate claims about possible illegal immigrants. However, if my office were to anonymously receive such complaints, we would forward the concerns to the proper federal authorities on the whistleblower's behalf.

Please visit www.erie.gov/comptroller for more information regarding our whistleblower process. In addition to the anonymous tip line I operate as Erie County Comptroller, you will find the contact information for the anonymous tip line operated by Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

As an elected official, I am deeply concerned about the law passed by our NYS government. Regardless of my concerns, I feel that it is my duty to assist in the enforcement of, or at the very least not hinder, federal immigration laws. That is why I offer the services of our Whistleblower Hotline as a resource to you. If you would like to discuss the matter further, or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stefan I. Mychajliw, Jr.", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

STEFAN I. MYCHAJLIW, JR.
Erie County Comptroller